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Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 09252 220259Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /092 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8814
INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN MD
ERDA HQS WASHDC

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FOR OES/NET

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, JA
SUBJECT: FBR DEVELOPMENT IN JAPAN

1. ACCORDING TO A GOVERNMENT SOURCE, AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AMONG MITI, STA, PNC, UTILITIES AND REACTOR MANUFACTURERS CONCERNING SHCEDULE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DEMONSTRATION TYPE OF FAST BREEDER REACTOR (FBR). SHCEDULE CALLS FOR START OF DESIGN WORK WITHIN FY 1978 SO THAT CONSTRUCTION OF A DEMONSTRATION REACTOR WITH OUTPUT OF 1,000 TO 1,200 MWE WILL BE STARTED IN FY 1986.

2. PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DEMONSTRATION FBR WILL BE SUBMITTED TO JAEC ON JULY 15 FOR FORMAL APPROVAL AND ADOPTION BY GOVERNMENT.

3. SPECIFIC POINTS OF PROGRAM ARE AS FOLLOWS: 1. PROTOTYPE REACTOR MONJU (300 MWE) WILL BE COMPLETED BY FY 1984. 2. DEMONSTRATION REACTOR WILL BEGIN TO
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09252 220259Z

BE BUILT IN FY 1986 AND COMPLETED IN FY 1992. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DESIGN WORK ON DEMONSTRATION REACTOR WILL BE STARTED IN FY 1978. 3. ONE DEMONSTRATION REACTOR WILL BE BUILT BUT A MODEL PLANT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN ADVANCE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE THOROUGHGOING STUDY OF SAFETY AND ECONOMIC FACTORS. 4. FOUR UEARS AFTER

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

CONSTRUCTION OF DEMONSTRATION REACTOR IS STARTED (IN 1986), CONSTRUCTION OF SEVERAL COMMERCIAL REACTORS WILL BE STARTED. 5. TO PUSH PROGRAM SMOOTHLY, A NEW COMPANY WILL BE ESTABLISHED BY FOUR REACTOR MANUFACTURERS (MHI, HITACHI, TOSHIBA AND FUJI) TO UNDERTAKE DESIGN WORK.

4. FBR DEMONSTRATOR PROJECT ESTIMATED TO COST TOTAL OF YEN 700 TO YEN 800 BILLION INCLUDING UEN 200 BILLION FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ALONE. A COUNCIL WILL BE FORMED WITHIN YEAR TO STUDY SHARING OF EXPENSES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

5. COMMENT: WE DO NOT ATTACH MUCH POLICY SIGNIFICANCE TO ABOVE REPORT, CONSIDERING THAT TARGET DATE OF 1995 FOR BEGINNING OF OPERATION OF FIRST COMMERCIAL FBR IN JAPAN HAS BEEN IN THE NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE FOR SOME YEARS. REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN INITIAL DESIGN FUNDS IN JFY 1978 NECESSITATES PREPARATION OF PROGRAM PLAN BY GOJ IN ORDER TO CONVINCE FINANCE MINISTRY TO ALLOCATE DESIGN FUNDS. OF COURSE, REPORT HAS ATTRACTED MORE ATTENTION THAN OTHERWISE MIGHT HAVE BEEN CASE IN VIEW OF CURRENT US/JAPAN NUCLEAR POLICY ISSUE, AND NO DOUBT GOJ WILL USE PLAN AS EVIDENCE OF ITS INTENT TO PROCEED WITH FBR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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